

COUNTRY East Germany Approved For Release 2003/08/06 : CIA-RDP80-00810A000600520007-1

TOPIC Military Information from Stendal

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ED 20 February 1953

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REMARKS

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1. From 12 to 22 January 1953, the Tauentzien Kaserne on Osterburger Strasse, Stendal, was occupied to capacity by a unit most of whose personnel wore blue-bordered black epaulets. On 13 and 16 January, the barracks buildings were brightly lighted at dusk. On 31 December 1952, 80 to 100 soldiers were engaged in drill and maintenance work in the barracks yard.

2. On 12 January, about 190 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets left the Hindenburg Kaserne west of Schiller Strasse and south of Heinrich Heine Strasse and marched toward the target range. On 15 January, three trucks

each towing a gun was a 122-mm howitzer entered the installation. on 21 January, about 35 trucks occupied by a total of 1,000 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets and carrying submachine guns, entrenching tools and light equipment; 3 guns; and 5 mortars entered the installation. the unit was returning from a major exercise.

3. On 2 January, about 95 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets entered the Albrecht der Baer Kaserne after an inspection in the yard. Motor vehicles were seen driving to, and from the installation.

4. On 3 January, about 15 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were seen drilling in the former Fallschirmjaeger Lager. in addition to the six guns previously reported, some other guns were in the artillery emplacement of the former Fallschirmjaeger Lager.

5. On 28 December, 120 to 140 soldiers were engaged in drilling and firing practice with carbines in the Tauentzien Kaserne. on 2 January, about 50 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with artillery insignia and carrying small arms; and a detail of 1 NCC and 4 EM carrying a portable radio set entered the installation from the north.

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6. On 30 December 1952, the Hindenburg Kaserne was occupied by 2,000 to 2,500 soldiers most of whom wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. On 30 December, about 300 soldiers received infantry training in the barracks yard. [redacted] about 100 soldiers with some mortars entered the installation, coming from the direction of Uenglingen. [redacted]

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7. On 12 January, the gate of the Albrecht der Baer Kaserne was guarded by a sentry wearing red-bordered black epaulets. On 30 December 1952, about 24 soldiers carrying full pack left the installation toward the training field. [redacted] 50 soldiers carrying small arms and entrenching tools entered the installation coming from the direction of the training field. They were followed by an armored scout car. [redacted] on 7 January, about 60 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank insignia and 6 officers with tank insignia boarded a train for Gardelegen at the Stendal railroad station. On 10 January, about 30 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank insignia and carrying small arms and full pack arrived by train at the Stendal railroad station, coming from the direction of Gardelegen, and marched toward the Albrecht der Baer Kaserne. [redacted]

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[redacted] Comment. This information indicates no changes in the occupation of Stendal as carried on the basis of the two last reports. [redacted] units from [redacted] Stendal moved at an increasing rate to the north section of Letzling Heath. [redacted] They probably went to the troop training grounds for short-term combat firing practices.

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